

S E C R E T

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

6 April 1945

TO : JJ/001
FROM : SAINT Bari BAB-007
SUBJECT : Letter From Bari

1. BB/007 returned at the end of March from a brief visit to Caserta. The object of the trip was twofold: a) to hold conversations with JJ/001 on urgent Balkan matters. BB/007 had for this purpose prepared "A Brief Survey of X-2 Balkan Operations, Personnel Requirements and Future Plans" to serve as a basis for the talks. Unfortunately JJ/001's intended journey was delayed and BB/007 returned to Bari. However, copies of the above document have been forwarded and should by now be in your hands. b) to discuss fully the problem of coordinating our activities with those of the newly established SCI-Austria.

2. It was learned in recent conferences with Major Gerhold of SILO and Captain Ransom of 5 S.C.I., that these organizations will proceed to Trieste as soon as the city is liberated. We have tentatively agreed to synchronize our move with theirs. An advance party will be sent to make the necessary living and office arrangement once the city falls. Moreover, it is intended to group all American and British CE agencies under one roof in Trieste, so that an even closer collaboration with our BB counterparts is contemplated.

3. It is felt that the choice of Trieste is a happy one. Due to its geographic position, it is the logical center of activities for X-2 Balkan and Hungary. Besides, Trieste is becoming the focal point of certain Balkan resistance movements.

4. The collapse of Germany and Austria will doubtless result in a sharply increased volume of X-2 work. The influx of POW's, refugees, officials, and displaced persons in general is expected to swell to enormous proportions, making the task of screening, tracing, surveilling clandestine traffic and underground activities a sizeable task. It is somewhat difficult at this point to see how units limited to our size and to that of our British counterparts will be able to cope with the problem.

5. Our Desk has discussed common problems and possible joint operations in the Yugoslav area with Major Berry and Lt. Hoffman. The latter paid a brief visit to this office and to SILO, for the purpose of examining files on GIS personalities still in Yugoslavia who by now are in or en route to Austria.

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6. Clearance has been requested from Belgrade for BE/007 and AE/005 for a brief stay in that city. Upon our arrival there, the cooperation of Colonel Sasic will be solicited for the following:

- a) Help in the guiding of SOI agents through Partisan lines.
- b) Interrogation of prominent OIS personnel now in Partisan custody.
- c) Obtaining of Partisan interrogation reports, heretofore unavailable to HB and this Desk.

7. All aspects of the Albanian situation have been discussed in the report named in para. 1.). However, we wish to remark here that unless clearance from the Albanian authorities is forthcoming in the near future, we shall take no further steps in this direction for the time being.

8. We are at this writing working on the rather complex Yugoslav underground network and its penetration of OSS and other American and HB agencies, based upon first hand information furnished by our agent. A series of reports will be forthcoming.

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